

IN THE CLAIMS

1. A guidance electronics unit for an explosively-launched vehicle comprising a plurality of circuit card assemblies, each circuit card assembly containing a plurality of electronic components and interconnections, each circuit card assembly maintained in a housing and spaced apart, wherein all spaces surrounding each circuit card assembly are filled with a granular material to provide support for each circuit card assembly during explosive launch.

2. The guidance electronics unit of Claim 1 wherein said granular material has a particle size less than 250 microns.

3. The guidance electronics unit of Claim 2 wherein said granular material comprises at least one particle size range.

4. The guidance electronics unit of Claim 3 wherein said granular material comprises more than one particle size range.

5. The guidance electronics unit of Claim 2 wherein said granular material comprises glass beads.

6. The guidance electronics unit of Claim 2 wherein said granular material comprises microballoons.

7. The guidance electronics unit of Claim 1 wherein said explosively-launched vehicle is selected from the group consisting of guided projectiles and missiles.

8. (Currently Amended) A method for supporting circuit card assemblies in a guidance electronics unit for an explosively-launched vehicle, each circuit card assembly containing a plurality of electronic components and interconnections, said method comprising:

placing each circuit card assembly in a housing in a ~~stacked~~, spaced apart configuration, and

substantially filling all spaces surrounding each circuit card assembly with a granular material to provide support for each circuit card assembly during explosive launch.

9. The method of Claim 8 wherein said granular material has a particle size less than 250 microns.

10. The method of Claim 9 wherein said granular material comprises at least one particle size range.

11. The method of Claim 10 wherein said granular material comprises more than one particle size range.

12. The method of Claim 9 wherein said granular material comprises glass beads.

13. The method of Claim 9 wherein said granular material comprises microballoons.

14. The method of Claim 8 wherein said explosively-launched vehicle is selected from the group consisting of guided projectiles and missiles.

15. The method of Claim 8 wherein said granular material is tightly packed into said guidance electronics unit by vibrating said housing during filling.